

mine from Whittier, California. This brave American was killed in action in Afghanistan on May 26, 2009, on the 15th anniversary of his service in the military.

Sergeant Rowe was killed by an improvised explosive device. The 33-year old Rowe leaves behind his 7-year old son, Andrew, and his wife Cindy. My thoughts and prayers go out to Cindy and Andrew, and I hope that they can find some solace in the gratitude that our Nation owes to Sergeant Rowe for his honorable service to his countrymen.

Sergeant Rowe spent his entire adult life serving our country. He joined the Army in 1994 and served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Last July he mobilized again for duty in Afghanistan.

He and his family have made the greatest sacrifice that one can make, and we are forever in his debt.

Sergeant Rowe, whose life embodied the meaning of the word "patriot", will be missed by family, friends and colleagues, but his honorable deeds will not be forgotten.

THE 21ST CZAR OF AMERICA

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, we have yet another czar appointed by the administration. The Pay Czar will set limits on how much money people can make that took bank bailout money.

The government is establishing a central committee accountable and answerable only to the President. These czars and czarinas avoid scrutiny of Congress. There is no advice and consent by the Senate and little oversight, and no one knows what these czars really do or how they're doing it. There is no authority found anywhere in the Constitution to appoint these czars. They enforce czar rules with no recourse by the citizens. The czars claim they know best how to take care of the masses.

It's appropriate that this administration and past administrations use this Russian term "czar" since the Russians, under the Soviet Union, invented the Politburo. The Soviet Politburo was made up of political party appointees that made all policy decisions and ruled the country through their dictates.

Now we have 21 czars. The newest, the Pay Czar, is moving us ever nearer to a socialist union which leaves us less and less control of the government by the people.

And that's just the way it is.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, despite the current focus on disagree-

ments over funding for the International Monetary Fund and closure of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, the primary intent of the supplemental is to continue funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. As Members who remain opposed to the bill, we need to make sure and make clear our opposition and work to defeat the bill.

It's notable that attempts to make important changes to the legislation, such as a call for an exit strategy from Afghanistan, or demands for increased transparency or accountability at the IMF, have been rebuffed. Continued funding of the war operations in Iraq ensures a continued occupation, thereby undermining the stated U.S. goal for withdrawal by the end of 2010. Funds for Iraq should be dedicated to bringing all of our troops home, and bringing those contractors home as well.

It's time to end this war. "No" to any more funds for the war in Iraq and the war in Afghanistan. And "no" if they try to put any other kind of legislation and tie it to the war funding.

Defeat the supplemental.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT PICK WINNERS AND LOSERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the recent focus on Israel and the Arab-Israeli conflict that continues today is vital and important to our world peace. There are a lot of people out there trying to revise history, however.

The State of Israel was established in 1948 by British mandate after the Holocaust of World War II. The Jewish people lay claim to this area since Biblical times. The establishment of the Jewish State of Israel merely formalized the return of their indigenous homeland by international agreement. Both the United States and the U.N., including the Soviet Union, recognized the State of Israel.

The day after the Jewish state was established in 1948, it was invaded by six surrounding Arab nations. A negotiated cease-fire ended hostility, with Jerusalem being split in the middle between Israel and Jordan.

In 1967 Israel was once again invaded by Syria from the north, Jordan from the east and Egypt from the southwest. During the war, Israel defended itself and expanded its border by including the Golan Heights that was controlled by Syria, the West Bank, controlled by Jordan, and Gaza, controlled by Egypt.

Some would have you believe that the establishment of the State of Israel changed the borders of Arab states in agreements that had existed for centuries. That is simply incorrect. The boundaries of the Middle East countries were fixed by Western powers after Turkey was defeated in World War I. The French took over Syria and Lebanon. The British took over Palestine and Iraq. The areas allotted to Israel had been under the control of the Ottoman Empire from 1517 to 1917. During this 400-year reign of the Turks, the Holy Land was only sparsely populated. The few folks living there were an oppressed Jewish population and mostly revolving Muslim immigrant groups, but also there were small groups of Christians in the area.

The actual boundaries of what became the State of Israel were set by the United Nations in 1947. When formally established in 1948, the attacks on the tiny new state of Israel began immediately by the neighboring Arab states.

Yasser Arafat formed the Palestine Liberation Organization, or the PLO, in 1964. He formed a state within a state in the Palestinian homeland of Jordan. Arafat many times stated that Jordan is Palestine. It was not until the 1967 war that the Arab nations backed the PLO for the purpose of taking back land that Israel had won in that defensive war of 1967. In 1967 Arab forces massed against Israel, surrounding the tiny nation.

Egyptian President Nasser was allowed to kick the U.N. peacekeepers out of the Sinai Peninsula, which acted as a buffer between Egypt and Israel. The world watched as hundreds of thousands of Arab troops tried to "drive Israel into the sea." The unexpected brilliance of the Israeli military stopped the aggression from all directions, and Israel was secure for a moment.

As a result of that war for survival, Israel fairly won land: The Sinai, the West Bank and Gaza. Everywhere else in the world, territory acquired in self-defense is only returned in the context of a negotiated peace. Israel has never been fully afforded that negotiated peace. Israelis have returned land and time again when a peaceful settlement was reached. Soon they may run out of land to give away.

In the Camp David accords of 1978, Israel returned the Sinai to Egypt in return for a peace treaty. Jordan and Syria have less formal but similar agreements with Israel.

Now one issue is whether Israeli Jews that have settled into the West Bank should leave or not be allowed to have natural expansion of their own communities. This should be negotiated between the Israeli Government and the Palestinians. The United States should not interfere in and prevent negotiations by picking winners and losers.

This year the United States is picking the loser of Israel. The United States should help broker negotiations